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STRENGTHENING WATERSHED AND IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT

December 2016 - December 2021

\$57 Million

OVERVIEW

The Strengthening Watershed and Irrigation Management (SWIM) project supports sustainable, agriculture-led economic growth by increasing the sustainable and productive use of water and strengthening water resource management in northern Afghanistan. Specifically, SWIM rehabilitates water infrastructure, strengthens the water regulatory environment; and increases the technical expertise of local entities to manage water resources.

ACTIVITIES

- Rehabilitate poor performing irrigation infrastructure and restore fragile and degraded-upland watersheds
- Conduct outreach campaigns, to strengthen the water regulatory framework in Afghanistan
- Establish and train irrigation associations, water user associations, and forestry associations on sustainable water management and to resolve conflicts through community-based natural resource management practices

- Support the Government of Afghanistan to strengthen water resource management capacity and coordinate with the USAID Regional Agriculture Development Programs to increase agricultural water productivity
- Provide grants to communities and non-governmental organizations, including women groups, for community watershed management

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Rehabilitated two out of four irrigation schemes in three provinces
- Completed 14,330 Topographic Surveys
- Developed eight Integrated Watershed Management Plans
- Trained seven civil servants on four modules of basic and advanced training on water evaluation and planning tools
- Trained 42 (including 9 women) of MAIL, MEW and NEPA staff
- Embedded five staff at NEPA
- Trained more than 11,160 farmers on-farm and watershed management
- Leveled 559.5 hectares of precision land.
- Established more than 70 IAs and WUAs
- Established 13 Water User Associations (WUAs) and Irrigation Associations (IAs)
- Installed nearly 60 demonstration plots with improved drip irrigation
- Trained 500 lead farmers on improved irrigation practices
- Established six women's groups to provide a platform for irrigation trainings

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